

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1092

By Mitchell

A RESOLUTION to recognize Linda Forte on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to recognize, particularly on the occasions of their retirements, those outstanding professionals who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Linda Forte is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, after more than thirty-nine years of positively influencing young lives with Metro Nashville Public Schools, Ms. Forte is taking her much deserved retirement this year; and

WHEREAS, Linda Forte began her teaching career in North Carolina in 1974, working with high-need students between the ages of fifteen and eighteen before returning to Tennessee in 1975, when she started her tenure with Metro Nashville Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, operating a private birth to four program in the summers at that time, Ms. Forte's unique experience was called upon by Metro in 1978 when the school district opened Robertson Academy to provide early childhood special education services to students; and

WHEREAS, Linda Forte was one of the six original teachers at Robertson Academy, which was the only public preschool in Davidson County, and would see the program outgrow its surroundings and relocate to Martha Vaught School; and

WHEREAS, with the closing of Martha Vaught School as Metro Nashville Public Schools transitioned to the inclusion policy for special education students, Linda Forte moved into an itinerant position with the school district for the next ten years, helping to place special education children in daycare centers, testing children, and running Individual Education Plans (IEP) for intake purposes; and

WHEREAS, since 2004, Linda Forte has taught the Blended Pre-K program at Gower Elementary School where she has enjoyed a wonderful collaboration with the very professional and hard-working faculty and staff; and

WHEREAS, during her career, Linda Forte proved to be an extremely talented and compassionate educator who worked assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Linda Forte truly epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Linda Forte for her many years of dedicated service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend to her our warmest wishes for a happy and enjoyable retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.